

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1946.  
TO THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF MILNROW.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my eighteenth Annual Report of the Health of the Urban District of Milnrow, and shall commence by placing before you the General Statistics from which this report is formed.

Population.

The estimated population of 1946 is 8134 with an acreage of 5,194 acres. The census of 1931 gave the number of inhabited houses to be 2,574, and the number of families or separate occupiers 2,575. The census of 1931 gave the total population as 8,523.

The rateable value of the District is £49,368 and the sum represented by the Penny Rate £205.

The population is industrial and is occupied mainly with cotton spinning, the engineering trade and the wool trade, none of which has any peculiar influence on the public health.

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Births in 1946	147	71	76
Deaths in 1946	105	51	49
Deaths in infants under one year	6	3	3
Still Births	3	1	2

Rates per 1,000 of Population

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Crude Death Rate</u>	<u>Phthisis Death Rate</u>	<u>Cancer Death Rate</u>	<u>Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1000 births</u>	<u>Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births.</u>
1946	18.0	12.9	0.24	2.08	40	Nil
1945	17.0	14.4	0.52	2.86	68	Nil
Mean of (five years) (1941-1945)	15.6	13.5	0.28	1.92	51	1.55
Increase or decrease in 1946 on 5 years average						
1941-1945	+2.4	-0.6	-0.04	+0.11	-11	-1.55
Previous year difference	+1.9	-1.5	-0.28	-0.78	-28	Nil



# VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE OF DISTRICT DURING 1946.

## AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Deaths		Infantile Mortality		Maternal Mortality	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Deaths under 1 year	Rate.	Deaths	Rate
1930	8682	89	10.2	110	12.6	1	11	Nil	
1931	8733	113	12.9	116	13.2	5	44	Nil.	
1932	8645	97	11.3	133	15.5	6	61	Nil.	
1933	8460	117	13.8	133	15.7	7	59	Nil.	
1934	8446	113	13.3	119	14.1	5	44	Nil.	
1935	8406	98	11.6	121	14.3	8	81	1.	9.7
1936	8287	95	11.4	110	13.2	2	21	1.	10.2
1937	8058	96	11.9	117	14.5	4	41	Nil.	
1938	8033	98	12.1	110	13.6	6	61	Nil.	
1939	8375	105	12.5	126	15.1	5	47	2.	13.3
1940	8072	118	14.6	116	14.3	3	25	1.	8.06
1941	7895	117	14.8	115	14.5	5	42	Nil	
1942	7663	110	14.3	90	11.7	6	54	Nil.	
1943	7520	116	15.4	108	14.3	9	77	Nil.	
1944	7661	129	16.8	97	12.6	2	15.5	1.	7.75
1945	7671	131	17.0	111	14.4	9	68	Nil.	
1946	8134	147	18.0	105	12.9	6	40	Nil.	

### Birth Rate.

In 1946 the live Births belonging to this District were 71 males and 76 females.

The birth rate for 1946 was 18.0  
The birth rate for 1945 was 17.0  
The increase in 1946 on the previous year was 1.0  
The birth rate for England and Wales in 1946 was 19.1

### Death Rate

In 1946 the deaths belonging to this District were 56 males 49 females.

The death rate for 1946 was 12.9  
The death rate for 1945 was 14.4  
The decrease in 1946 on the previous year was 1.5  
The death rate for England and Wales in 1946 was 11.5

In 1946 the registered births exceeded the deaths by 42.  
In 1945 the registered births exceeded the deaths by 20.

During the year 48 people belonging to the District died outside it

Birch Hill Hospital	41
Rochdale Infirmary	3
Victoria Hospital Morecambe	1
Marland Hospital	1
Rochdale District	2



The causes of death were

Tuberculosis	2
Influenza	1
Cancer of Stomach and duodenum	4
Cancer of Breast	1
Cancer all other sites	12
Intracranial vascular lesions	18
Heart diseases	21
Other diseases of circulatory system	9
Bronchitis	11
Pneumonia	2
Other respiratory diseases	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1
Appendicitis	2
Other digestive diseases	3
Nephritis	1
Premature Births	3
Congenital malformation and birth injury	2
Suicide	1
Other violent causes	1
All other causes	9

## Infantile Mortality

During 1945 there were 6 deaths of Infants under one year the causes of death being :-

Cyanosis and congestion of Lungs	1
Asphyxia and Premature respiratory efforts	1
Prematurity	3
Menigitis, acute Otitis Media	<u>1</u>
	6

The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1946 was	40
The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1945 was	68
The decrease in 1946 on the previous year was	28
The Maternal Mortality during 1946 was	Nil
The Maternal Mortality during 1945 was	Nil
The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was	43

## Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during

## Year 1946

[illegible]





There were 53 cases with 1 death

The Epidemic death rate in 1946 was 0.12 per 1,000  
The Epidemic death rate in 1945 was 0.39 per 1,000  
The Death rate for Pulmonary T.B. in 1946 was 0.24  
The Death rate for Pulmonary T.B. in 1945 was 0.53  
The Death rate for Cancer in 1946 was 2.08  
The Death rate for Cancer in 1945 was 2.86

There were 135 children immunised during the year  
114 pre school children and 21 school children.

Approximately 90% of the child population of the district  
have now been immunised.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Clinic. There is a Maternity and Child Welfare clinic  
(consultation) open every Tuesday 2 to 4 p.m. at 1 Wesley Street,  
Milnrow.

A clinic and treatment centre is also held there.  
These services are under the jurisdiction of the  
Lancashire County Council.

Ante Natal Clinic Arrangements with clinic in Rochdale for  
cases from this district to attend.

Midwifery. Domiciliary midwifery is carried out by one midwife  
employed by the Lancashire County Council.

Cleansing Centre Arrangements are made with the Rochdale Corporation  
for cases requiring treatment to be treated at their treatment centre  
in Chestnut Street, Rochdale.

During the year 35 persons from this district have  
attended for treatment.

#### HOSPITALS

##### Infectious Diseases

##### Isolation Hospital.

The Council are members of the Littleborough, Milnrow  
and Wardle Joint Hospital Board. The hospital is situated at  
Blacker Hill, Milnrow Road, Smithy Bridge, Littleborough.

Arrangements are made with the Bury Joint Hospital  
Board for smallpox patients.

##### Sanatoria and Tuberculosis Hospitals.

The Sanatoria and hospitals under the Lancashire County  
Council are available for the District.

##### Hospitals

Rochdale Infirmary  
Birch Hill Hospital  
Several Manchester Hospitals.

##### Ambulance facilities.

##### (a) Infectious cases.

Motor Ambulance owned by the Littleborough, Milnrow and  
Wardle Joint Hospital Board.

##### (b) Other cases.

Arrangement with the Rochdale Corporation.





Nursing Association.

The Minrow Urban District Nursing Association which is supported by voluntary contributions, employs one nurse. The nurse visits non-infectious cases upon application.

YEARLY REPORT (Nov. 1945 - Oct. 1946)

Number of cases carried forward .,..... 15  
New Cases for the year (Medical 48) (Surgical 32) ..... 80

CASES RECEIVED

Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
7	11	7	14	3	6	3	9	10	2	5	3

VISITS PAID.

Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
244	275	331	313	274	262	250	313	346	298	237	268

Total for the year ..... 3,411

SUMMARY OF CASES NURSED

Medical 47, Surgical 30, Pneumonia 1, Post Natal 2.

CLASSES OF PATIENTS NURSED

Children (under 14) 16, Housewives 32, Old Age Pensioners 17,  
Various 15 .....80

REMOVED FROM BOOKS

Convalescent 51, Admitted to Hospital 10, Deaths 18. .... 79  
Remaining on the books 10.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

O.R.I. Love, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of  
the Urban District Council of Milnrow.

Gentlemen,

I have very much pleasure in submitting to you my  
second Annual Report of the Sanitary circumstances of the  
District.

The main problems confronting the district are still  
the housing shortage, and the shortage of labour and materials  
for the repair and improvement of existing houses.

The government have issued instruction to local  
authorities asking that only work of an urgent character  
should be carried out to allow labour and materials to be  
diverted to the building of new houses. Owing to these  
instructions many defects not of an urgent character have  
had to be left in abeyance.

In connection with the renewal and provision of ash-  
bins great difficulty is being experienced in obtaining  
delivery of new ones. Many bins are in a dilapidated  
state, but cannot be renewed until further supplies are  
received. The low grade of fuel being burned at present  
is resulting in the bin capacity being taxed to the utmost.  
Every effort is being made to cope with the difficulty to  
prevent inconvenience to the householders. Collection  
being made as often as possible.

Owing to excessive rain during September the River Beal  
overflowed its banks and flooded a portion of Dale Street,  
Milnrow. Every effort was made to assist the occupants  
of the premises concerned to restore their premises to order.

A list of Foodstuffs condemned owing to contamination  
by the flood water is given in the report.

In the field of housing 20 "Arcon" temporary houses have  
been erected.

Work has commenced on the Bentgate Street site with the  
erection of 116 permanent houses.

Plans have been prepared for a further 166 houses to  
complete the Bentgate Street site.

Private enterprise has had plans approved for the lay-  
out of 24 houses, and has commenced the erection of two  
pairs of semi detached.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1947.

Number of Houses erected during the year:-

	By other bodies or persons	None
(a)	With State assistance. "Arcon Temporary	20
(b)	Number in course of erection under Council Scheme	80
	Total number of houses to be erected under present contract	116
	Plans have been passed for the erection of 24 houses by private enterprise and 4 houses are in course of erection.	



1.	<u>Inspection of Dwelling Houses inspected during the year.</u>	
1a.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	280
b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	309
2a.	Number of dwelling houses (included under Sub-head (1) (above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Regulations 1925 and 1932.	Nil
b.	Number of Inspections made for the purpose.	Nil
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	None
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	116
11.	<u>Remedy of Defects during the year without the Service of Formal Notices.</u>	
	Number of Defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers.	104.
111.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u>	
a.	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 13 of Housing Act 1936.	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	None.
IV.	<u>Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.</u>	
a.(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	5.
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein.	8
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein.	40.
b.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	11.
c.(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	9.
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases.	72.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

The total number of houses inspected during the year was 385. Of this total 76 were inspected owing to the occurrence of infectious disease and smallpox contacts. The remaining 309 inspections were made on account of general defects, overcrowding etc.

Other inspections made are shown on "Table "A" and nuisances abated in Table "B".

There were 215 informal notices issued, and one statutory notice served.





## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the district has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

The main supply is provided by Rochdale and Oldham Corporations, and is a direct supply to the houses.

There are no stand pipes in the district.

Of the 2,920 houses, 2,713 are supplied from the mains. The houses not receiving mains water are those scattered throughout the district where a mains supply is not available, and are farms, farm cottages and small hamlets.

## RATS AND MICE INFESTATIONS.

62 visits have been made to premises for rats and mice infestations. These were all minor infestations, and successful baiting was carried out.

There does not appear to be a large rat population, and every effort is made to keep the problem under control.

## VERMIN INFESTATIONS.

There were 7 complaints of infestation of beetles etc. These were dealt with by the use of "D.D.T." powder.

## SCAVENGING.

The Sanitary accommodation at the end of the year was:-

Fresh water closets	2,439.
Waste water closets	71.
Pail closets	229.
Ashbins	3,128

Two Waste Water closets and four Pail closets were converted to W.C.'s and eight additional W.C's installed.

Of the 229 pail closets only 7 are near sewers, the remainder being in isolated areas of the district.

During the year negotiations were carried on for the conversion of the pail closets at a factory which is below the level of the sewer. Plans have been submitted and approved for the conversion of the pail closets, and a plant to deal with the sewage.

The sanitary accommodation at another factory has been reconstructed.

221 ashbins and 22 sanitary pails have been renewed, and 38 additional ashbins provided.

## TIP COLLECTION ~~WASTE~~ SALVAGE

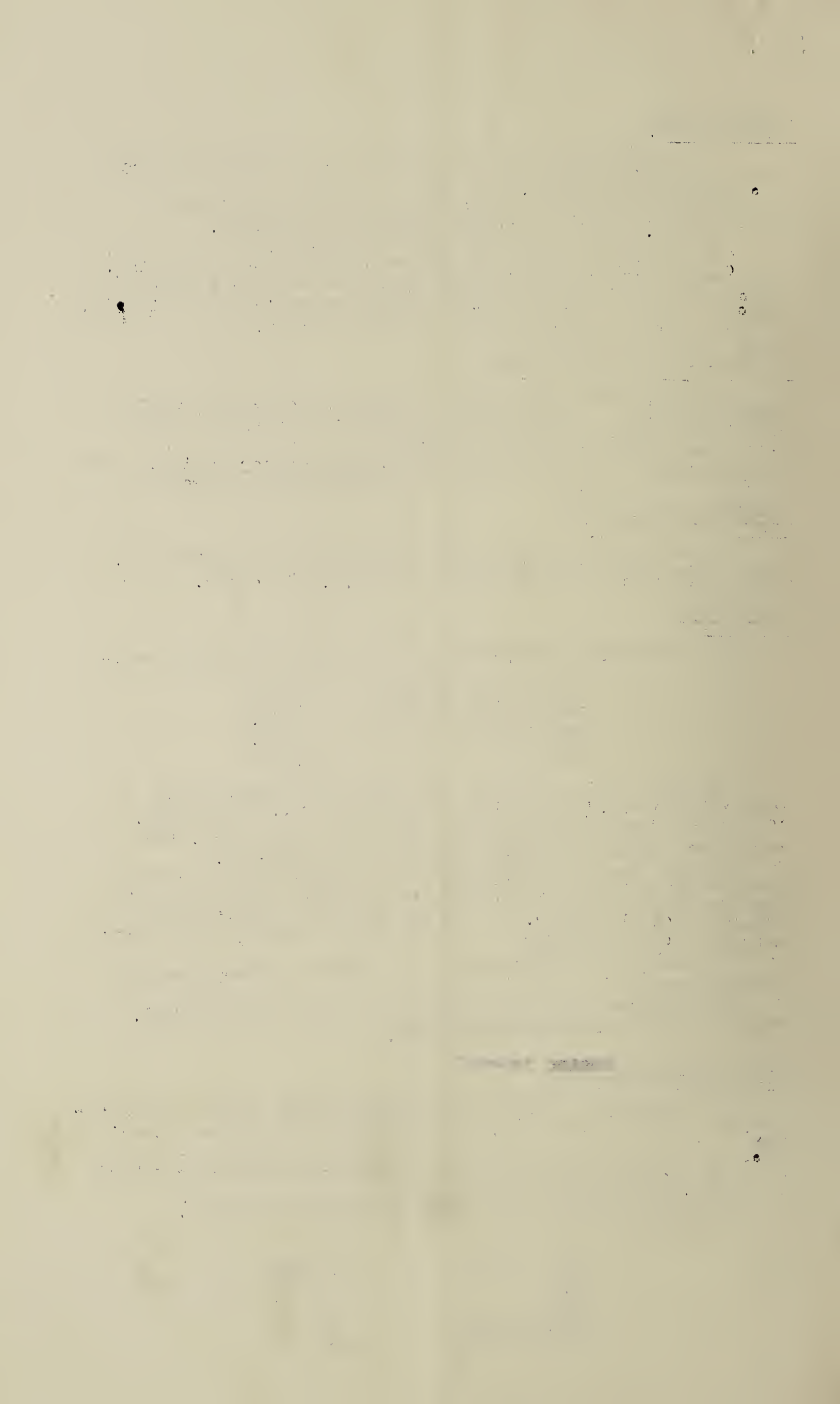
All household refuse is collected by our refuse collector vehicle, and is disposed of by controlled tipping on Council tip.

The Council is purchasing a new refuse collector vehicle to replace the existing one.

Salvage work has been continued during the year.

The Amount Collected:-

Waste paper	55 Tons
Rags	3 "
Bones	3 "
Scrap Metal	13 "
Kitchen Waste	118 "



## FACTORIES.

There are 33 factories in the district made up as follows:

- 11 Cotton Spinners.
  - 1 Flannel manufacturer.
- 3 Waste Mills.
- 2 Engineering works.
  - 1 Paper tube manufacturer.
- 2 Bleaching and Dying works.
- 1 Surgical cotton manufacturer.
- 1 Woodworking machinist.
- 1 Laundry.
- 1 Brickworks.
- 1 Quarry.
- 2 Joiners.
- 6 Garages (Motor repairers)

During the year 117 visits were paid to factories re sanitary accommodation, canteens and boiler plants.

## FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND FOOD SHOPS.

### Bakehouses.

There are 21 bakehouses and 54 visits have been made to these premises. The general standard of cleanliness is good. A concrete floor has been laid, a new large white glazed sink provided and re-arrangement of equipment has been carried out at one bakehouse.

The ovens at the 21 bakehouses are heated by gas, electricity and solid fuel. 5 by gas, 2 by electricity, and 14 by solid fuel.

### FOOD SHOPS.

There are 15 Butchers shops, 10 Fried Fish and Chip shops, 25 Grocery and provisions, 21 Confectioners, 12 Greengrocery and Fish, 1 Ice Cream Manufacturer, 3 Ice Cream Retailers, 1 Blood Pudding manufacturer.

80 visits have been made to food preparing premises and food shops. The general standard of cleanliness is satisfactory.

### ICE CREAM.

The premises which are used for the manufacture of ice cream have been visited regularly, and the premises are clean.

The 3 retail premises have been visited, and all have refrigerators supplied by the makers of ice cream, and sell wrapped ice cream.

### BLOOD PUDDING MANUFACTURE.

The manufacture of blood puddings have been commenced during the year. Repairs and alterations to the premises were carried out prior to commencing manufacture.

### CANTEENS.

Inspections have been made of 3 factory canteens. The premises were clean and satisfactory.





## MILK.

### Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There are 84 cowkeepers in the district, of these, 54 are dairy farms.

The number of milkshops - 21.

During the year 280 visits were paid to farms.

Alterations have been made at one farm, the cowshed reconstructed, tubular fittings and drinking bowls installed, new dairy with milk room and washing room built, brine cooler, refrigerator, washing tank and sterilizer provided.

Outbuildings at another farm have been converted to a dairy and cooler installed.

One cowshed has been demolished owing to the dangerous condition of the building. A new cowshed is in course of construction.

Efforts are being made to try to persuade more farmers to apply for a licence to produce graded milk. During the year 9 farms have been visited by the County Sanitary Inspector. Alterations to buildings necessary to comply with accredited licence suggested. These suggestions are now being considered by the farmers concerned.

A new licence to produce "Accredited" milk has been granted during the year. One farm which held an "accredited" licence changed tenancy, and the renewal of the licence is being withheld until certain repairs have been carried out. The number of "accredited" licences in the district being the same as last year 3.

The Lancashire County Council have delegated to me authority to take samples of milk from schools and "accredited" farms.

#### SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

No. taken.	T.B.		Methy. Blue.		Colif test.	
	N.	P.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
"Accredited" farms	7.	4.	-	3	1	4

One sample taken for T.B. the experiment went wrong at the laboratory, the guinea pig dying before the completion of the test.

	No. taken.	T.B.	
		N.	P.
Dairy Farms	7	6	1

The positive sample was dealt with by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

One cow was slaughtered under the T.B. Order.

### SCHOOLS MILK.

During the year the supply of "pasteurised" milk to schools was made compulsory, Ogden Endowed School being exempt.



At the commencement of delivery of pasteurised milk the method of delivery was not satisfactory, the milk being transferred from the churns delivered from the dairy into churns supplied by the farmer. Also the delivery to one farmer was not early enough to enable him to deliver the milk to the schools the same day, having to hold it on his farm for 24 hours.

These matters were taken up with the dairy and the farmers, and the milk is now delivered to the schools in the same churns as received from the dairy. The delivery is also in time for the milk to be delivered to the schools the same day as received.

The method of serving the milk at the schools is unsatisfactory, the milk having to be ladled out of the churns into jugs before the individual beakers are filled.

This matter was reported to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The County ~~Medical Officer~~ of Health has taken this matter up, and is endeavouring to arrange for the milk to be delivered to the schools in bottles.

#### SCHOOL SAMPLES.

No. taken.	T.B.		Methy. Bluc.		Phosphatase test.	
	N.	P.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
9	5	1	1	1	-	1

The T.B. positive case was dealt with by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and one cow was slaughtered under the T.B. Order 1938.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS SAMPLING.

During the year the County Sampling Officer took 6 milk samples for quality. One of the samples contained 6.4% extraneous water and one 18%. 4 Appeal to the law samples were taken which proved to be genuine. Court proceedings were instituted and the farmer concerned with the milk containing 6.4% extraneous water was fined £5 plus £2/2/- Analysts fee, and the farmer concerned with the milk containing 18% extraneous water was fined £10 plus £2/2/- Analysts fee plus £3/3/- advocates fee.

#### FOOD.

During the year the undermentioned foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human food, and have been disposed of:

3 Tons	Palm Kernels.
2 Tins	Salmon.
5 "	Pilchards.
2 "	Diced beetroot.
6 "	Peas.
10 "	Stewed Steak.
1 "	Corned beef.
3 "	Evaporated milk.
2 "	Unsweetened milk.
4 "	Pork luncheon meat.
15 "	Biscuits.
8 lbs.	Brisket Beef.
4 1/2 "	Bacon.
16 "	Butter.



Foodstuffs condemned due to contamination by flood water:

28	lbs.	Spaghetti.
3	"	Biscuits.
48	"	Margarine.
25	"	Butter.
20	"	Lard.
20	"	Raisins.
18	"	Prunes.
3	Doz.	Chocolate bars.
3	"	"Mars" bars.
3	"	Chocolate crisps.
16	lbs.	Ground Almonds.
24	"	Cake flour.
12	"	Oats.
30	"	Peas.
30	"	Self raising flour.
20	"	Oatmeal.
45	"	Bacon.

### SHOPS ACTS.

The following is a list of shops in the district:-

Confectioners	20
Butchers	15
Boot and Shoe	2
Chemists	3
Corn merchant	1
Drapery	9
Electrical goods	2
Fried Fish and Chip	10
Fancy goods.	1
Grocery and Provisions	25
Greengrocery and Fish	15
Gowns	1
Hairdressers	2
Hardware	8
Licensed premises.	
Public houses.	22
Clubs.	3
Off Licences.	2
Newspapers.	7
Paints, Varnish and Wallpaper.	1
Sweets and Tobacco.	7
Second hand dealers.	2
Tripe	1
Watch and clock.	1.

These are mainly family businesses except the co-operative stores, and a few multiple shops.  
The number of assistants employed is 68 made up as follows:-

Male assistants	39
Female	20
<u>Young persons</u>	
Male	8
Female	1

The provisions of the Shops Acts are being complied with.





## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The industrial chimneys are kept under constant observation. 7 visits have been made to boiler plants, and discussions have taken place regarding methods of prevention of atmospheric pollution.

Two boiler plants have been fitted with new automatic sprinkler stokers with elevator feeds.

With the grades of coal at present being supplied to industrial undertakings the firemen are having difficulty in keeping down the emission of smoke.

Every effort is being made to prevent the emission of large quantities of smoke.

## INFECTION AND DISINFECTION.

There were 57 cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

Cphthalmia Neonatorum	1
Scarlet Fever	32
Meningitis	1
Lobar Pneumonia	1
Measles	3
Erysipelas	1
Whooping Cough	14
Tuberculosis	4

57

Of the 32 cases of Scarlet Fever all were removed to the isolation hospital.

132 Rooms have been fumigated with formaldehyde vapour.

There have been 19 visits paid to Smallpox contacts. These have been members of H.M. forces returning from abroad.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and consideration in the exercise of my duties as Sanitary Inspector.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

H. NUNN, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
Sanitary Inspector.



TABLE "A".

INSPECTIONS.

Investigations for Infectious diseases (Notifiable)	57.
Investigations re Smallpox contacts	19.
Number of houses inspected	366.
Re-inspections	<del>481</del> .
Inspections of factories	117.
Inspections of farms	295.
"    "    pig carcasses	20.
<u>Inspections of Food preparing premises and Foodshops:</u>	
Bakehouses	54.
Butchers shops	25.
Greengrocery and Fish	7.
Fried Fish and Chip shops	9.
Grocery and Provisions	17.
Blood Pudding Manufacture	8.
Ice Cream manufacturer and Shops	10.
Factory Canteens	3.
Inspections of Clubs	11.
Visits re Rat Infestations	62.
"    re vermin infestations	21.
Visits to schools	8.
Drains inspected	181.
Miscellaneous	253.
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	1,980.
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TABLE "B".

NUISANCES ABATED.

Overcrowding	9.
Houses cleansed	4.
Choked drains released	17.
Choked W.C. drains released	<del>10</del>
New inspection chambers built	2
Drains repaired	10.
Sink waste pipes repaired	12.
Flush pipe joints to W.C. pedestals repaired	20.
Flooded cellars	
Roofs repaired	21.
Plastering of walls and ceilings	14.
Window frames repaired	8.
Floors repaired	4.
Eavesgutters repaired	56.
Fire-ranges repaired	5.
Rainwater pipes repaired	37.
Defective flues repaired	2.
Accumulations of refuse removed	3.
Burst water pipes repaired	23.
Dilapidated closet pails renewed	22.
Dilapidated ashbins renewed	221.
Additional ashbins provided	38.
Pail closets converted	4.
Additional W.C.'s installed	8.
Waste water closets converted to W.C.'s	2.
Drains reconstructed	5.
Rats and Mice Infestations	15.
Vermin infestations	7.
Dampness	4
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